

THE HOTIELIERS CHARTER - PROMOTING THE INDUSTRY

MARK ASHTON

In this issue of the Digest, we discover that the Hoteliers' Charter has already secured the support of hundreds of hoteliers as well as a number of industry bodies: UKHospitality, The Master Innholders, St Julian's Scholars, The Institute of Hospitality and The AA. Its purpose is to raise the profile of the industry in the public arena, and the role of a 'Charter Hotelier' is to encourage employment from their local community into the hospitality industry, primarily through hotels.

Signing up to The Hoteliers' Charter means hoteliers agree to the 10 points outlined in the charter, which include: providing a positive and nourishing work environment for all colleagues, with a commitment to training and development; providing work/life balance; sensible working patterns; and fair wages and gratuities. The aim is to position hospitality jobs as careers, not just jobs. In addition, those signing up for the charter agree to support industry charities, drive environmentally sustainable businesses and advocate diversity, inclusion and equality.



Sally Beck said: "We need to show that the industry stands together, supporting our colleagues through what has been a difficult time for everyone. It is now more important than ever to recognise the value of not only looking after, retaining and developing people already in the industry but also attracting new talent into the fold. The Hoteliers' Charter is intended to spread the good word about our industry, to educate both parents and youngsters about the benefits of attending a catering or hospitality college, or working with a Charter Hotelier, where they can benefit from a good work life balance, training, mentoring and apprenticeships. Brexit has meant that UK hotels no longer have the same access to EU employees, so, as the industry readies itself to bounce back after the pandemic, now is a key time to appeal to students and young adults in the UK to consider a career in hotels and hospitality. The Hoteliers Charter will therefore serve as a force for good in helping us to improve awareness of all of the great career opportunities that exist in hotels in the whole of the UK."

The Hoteliers' Charter website, <u>www.hotelierscharter.com</u> outlines the reasons for its creation and why hoteliers should support the new initiative. Once approved, Charter Hoteliers are also given access to the network area where they can connect with regional communities. At SHTM, we fully support this initiative to promote not only a vibrant industry but also rewarding life-long careers for our graduates.